

# HEATH FRANKLIN



Heath Franklin is a Logie-nominated Australian actor, comedic performer, improviser and writer. Franklin made his television debut on the sketch show *The Ronnie Johns Half Hour*, from where his character, 'Chopper', a comedic impersonation of real-life criminal Mark 'Chopper' Read, has become an international cult hit.

In 2006, Franklin's efforts were rewarded when he was nominated for an Australian TV Logie award, the inaugural Graham Kennedy Award for Most Outstanding New Talent. In 2007, Franklin performed his debut Australian national live tour, *Chopper's Harden the F\*ck Up Australia Tour*, going on to perform an international version of the show in a sell-out season in London, then Edinburgh Fringe. Since 2007, Franklin, as 'Chopper', has sold over 130,000 tickets across Australia, New Zealand and the UK.

Franklin's second Australian national 'Chopper' tour in 2008 was the critically acclaimed *Make Deadsh\*t's History*. The enormous positive response to the show led to its DVD recording in D-Division at Pentridge Prison in Melbourne for release in 2009. This DVD was nominated for the 2010 ARIA for Best Comedy Release. In 2010, Heath Franklin made his feature film debut in the lead role of 'Mervyn Toebuck', alongside Jemaine Clement of NZ's *Flight of the Conchords* in the black comedy feature film, *Predicament*.

*Chopper's Republic of Anzakistan*, the all-new TV show aired in NZ in 2015. The hilarious stand up / sketch show sees 'Chopper' uniting Australia and New Zealand as one country, with a cast of comedians reflecting on the unique aspects of our different cultures. Franklin went on to tour this show to sold out crowds across Australia and New Zealand in 2016.

'Chopper' can be heard weekly in Australia on the Triple M Network's *Merrick and Australia* drive show.



## REVIEWS

'Australia's funniest comedy character.' ★★★★★ *Sunday Mail*

'Franklin is a true comedy talent.' ★★★★★½ *The Age*

'A top hour of uproariously entertaining comedy...packed with good gags and 'so wrong, it's right' moments.' ★★★★★ *Chortle (UK)*

'Chopper drops his truth bombs with ferocity, and he doesn't ever play it safe. Behind the moustachioed, belligerent bogan facade, however, Franklin is clever, his performance is smooth and his delivery close to perfection.'  
★★★★ *Adelaide Advertiser*

'A comedy set leaving the audience hypnotised by one's methodical vision to brazen the universe.' ★★★★★ *Beat*

'...Every one of his gags hit the mark. Franklin is a very clever operator with a strong knowledge and edgy take on current events.' ★★★★★ *Herald Sun*

## AWARDS & NOMINATIONS

**WINNER** Comedy Hero – FHM 2011

**NOMINEE** Best International Guest – New Zealand Comedy Guild 2010

**FINAL NOMINEE** Best Comedy Release – ARIA Awards 2010

**NOMINEE** Graham Kennedy Award for Most Outstanding New Talent – TV Logie Awards 2006

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